

THE REPUBLIC OF RWANDA



**RWANDA STATEMENT AT THE 69TH REGULAR SESSION OF THE
GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC
ENERGY AGENCY (IAEA)**

DELIVERED BY:

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- ❖ **Mr President,**
- ❖ **Distinguished Delegates,**
- ❖ **Ladies and Gentlemen;**

1. On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Rwanda, I wish to extend warm congratulations to you, **Mr. President**, and all elected officials of this 69th IAEA General Conference. I also wish to pledge our full support and cooperation throughout the deliberations.
2. Rwanda commends the work and leadership of Director General Raphael Mariano Grossi in promoting the peaceful uses of nuclear science and technology for sustainable socio-economic development. We reiterate our support to the Agency's flagship initiatives such as Rays of Hope, Atoms for water, ZODIAC, Small Modular Reactor technologies, as well as other programmes that contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Mr. President

3. Rwanda is committed to integrating peaceful nuclear technology solutions as an enabler for socio-economic transformation in line with our Vision 2050. Our national nuclear policy, together with the updated nuclear law, is being implemented to provide a framework for the safe, secure and sustainable use of nuclear science and technology. This is in addition to our will to ratify the convention on nuclear safety and other critical international instruments.
4. The Rwanda Nuclear Energy Programme consists of two flagship projects: the Centre for Nuclear Science and Technology, and a Nuclear Power Plant project based on Small Modular Reactors (SMRs). Both projects are intended to meet our national needs in food and agriculture, human health, industry, environment, water resources management, as well as clean and reliable electricity generation.
5. This year, Rwanda was honoured to host the Nuclear Energy Innovation Summit for Africa, NEISA 2025 in Kigali, which brought together leaders, experts, and innovators to explore pathways for advancing nuclear technology in Africa. The Summit was a success in fostering partnerships, knowledge sharing, and regional cooperation.
6. On behalf of the Government of Rwanda, I wish to express our deep gratitude to Director General Raphael Mariano Grossi for gracing the Summit with his presence, which elevated its significance and impact.

Rwanda is committed to sustaining this platform and will continue to organize the Summit regularly as a continental forum for innovation in nuclear energy. The next Nuclear Energy Innovation Summit for Africa, NEISA2026 will take place in Kigali from 18th to 19th May 2026. I take this opportunity to invite all stakeholders, leaders, experts, SMR technology developers or vendors, other innovative nuclear technology developers, to attend this important platform and share their best ideas for fast secure and safe deployment of innovative nuclear technologies in Africa.

7. Rwanda also hosted a number of important IAEA missions this year: including the International Physical Protection Advisory Service (IPPAS) mission, the Regulatory Infrastructure for Radiation Safety and Nuclear Security (RISS), the Integrated Mission of the Programme of Action for Cancer Therapy (imPACT), the preparatory Meetings for both Integrated Nuclear Infrastructure Review (INIR) mission and International Nuclear Security Advisory Service (INSServ) Mission. These missions reflect Rwanda's commitment to strengthening its nuclear safety and security infrastructure in line with IAEA standards and international best practices.

Looking ahead, Rwanda will host the Integrated Nuclear Infrastructure Review (INIR) mission and the Integrated Safety Review Service (INSERV) mission in the next year 2026. These missions will provide valuable guidance in ensuring that Rwanda continues to develop its nuclear energy programme in full compliance with international safety, security, and safeguards obligations.

8. Rwanda continues to strengthen its independent nuclear regulatory body to ensure robust oversight of nuclear activities. We are also establishing strategic partnerships with companies developing SMR and advanced reactor technologies, positioning Rwanda as a proof-of-concept destination and accelerating knowledge and technology transfer.

Mr. President

9. Rwanda appreciates the invaluable support it continues to receive from the IAEA and through regional cooperation frameworks such as AFRA Agreement. We remain committed to working closely with the African Commission on Nuclear Energy and our regional partners to advance the peaceful applications of nuclear technology in Africa.

10. In conclusion, Rwanda reaffirms its strong commitment to the IAEA and its principles. We thank the Agency, the Director General, and his entire team for their dedicated efforts in expanding and promoting the peaceful uses of nuclear science and technology for the benefit of all nations.

Thank You